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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3732

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 115.0001-00000
Customer No. 22882

JUN 29 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | Confirmation No : 9694 |
| John I. Shipp et al. |) | |
| Serial No.: 10/047,122 |) | Group Art Unit: 3732 |
| Filed: January 15, 2002 |) | Examiner: Cary O'Connor |
| For: INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS |) | |
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| SURGERY |) | |

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action of December 30, 2003, the period for reply having been extended for three months by a request for extension and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicant proposes that this application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 15 of this paper.